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TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner UHLIR
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FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF: 10873.792USD1
TELEPHONE: 612.371.5237

Total pages, including cover letter: 3PTO FAX NUMBER 1-703-872-9306

If you do NOT receive all of the pages, please telephone us at 612.336.4638, or fax us at 612.332.9081.

Title of OFFICIAL Document Transmitted: Response to Restriction RequirementApplicant: HIRAMOTO et al.Serial No.: 10/848,742Filed: 05/17/04Group Art Unit: 1773Confirmation No. 7331Our Ref. No.: 10873.792USD1

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By: Name: Douglas P. MuellerReg. No.: 30,300

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Sender's Name: Gina Dahl

January 26, 2005

Date

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S/N 10/848,742

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Applicant: | HIRAMOTO ET AL. | Examiner: | UHLIR |
| Serial No.: | 10/848,742 | Group Art Unit: | 1773 |
| Filed: | MAY 17, 2004 | Docket No.: | 10873.792USD1 |
| Title: | MAGNETO-RESISTIVE ELEMENT | | |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 26, 2005.

By: 
Name: Gina M. Dahl

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants elect Group I (claims 1-3, 5, 12-17, 39, 41, 42, 45, 47, 48, 51, 61-63, 65, 66, 69, 71, and 72) in response to the Restriction Requirement of December 30, 2004.

Applicants traverse the requirement to the extent of requesting that claim 59 in Group II that corresponds to allowable Group I claims be reinstated for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

S/N 10/848,742

PATENT

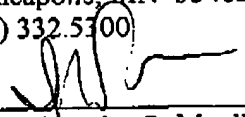
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No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 20, 2005

By: 
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DPM/gmd